

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A control device for a module (10) forming a lock mechanism, the control device comprising:

a cable (14) having a proximal end (14P) and a distal end respectively;

a jacket (18) housing the cable; the jacket having a proximal end (18P) and a distal end (18D) respectively, the proximal and distal ends of the jacket are immobilized by proximal (20P) and distal (20D) retaining elements,

wherein at least the proximal end (18P) of the jacket (18) is connected to a corresponding first ~~the proximal~~ retaining element (20P) by means of a connecting element (22) attached to the proximal end (18P) of the jacket (18), and

wherein a fusion interface is provided between the connecting element (22) and the proximal retaining element (20P) at locations offset laterally from an axis of the jacket (18) to avoid deformation of the jacket (18) during a welding process.

Claim 2 (previously presented): The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the connecting element (22) is overmolded on the proximal end (18P) of the jacket (18).

Claim 3 (currently amended): The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ~~weld~~ fusion interface between the connecting element (22) and the proximal retaining element (20P) is formed by ultrasonically welding the connecting element (22) to the proximal retaining element (20P).

Claim 4 (previously presented): The device as claimed in claim 3, wherein the connecting element (22) and the proximal retaining element (20P) comprise complementary welding faces (28, 30) each provided with ribs (32, 34), the ribs (32) borne by the welding face (28) of the connecting element (22) being substantially perpendicular to the ribs (34) borne by the welding face (30) of the proximal retaining element (20P), and wherein the fusion interface is formed between the ribs (32, 34) of the complementary welding faces (28, 30).

Claim 5 (previously presented): The device as claimed in claim 4, wherein the complementary welding faces (28, 30) are provided on complementary interlocking parts of the connecting element (22) and the proximal retaining element (20P).

Claim 6 (currently amended): The device as claimed in claim 5, wherein the interlocking part of the ~~first~~ proximal retaining element (20P) forms a longitudinal channel (G) for the interlocking of the connecting element (22), the welding face (30) of the ~~first~~ proximal retaining element (20P) forming a base of the channel (G), the ribs (34) of the ~~first~~ proximal retaining element (20P) extending longitudinally.

Claim 7 (previously presented): The device as claimed in claim 6, wherein the complementary interlocking parts of the connecting element (22) and of the proximal retaining element (20P) comprise complementary welding shoulders (36, 38), and wherein the fusion interface is formed between the complementary welding shoulders (36, 38).

Claim 8 (currently amended): The device as claimed in claim 7, wherein the proximal retaining element (20P) contains two ribs (34) extending longitudinally on either side of the jacket (18) and two welding shoulders (38) extending longitudinally on either side of the jacket (18) so that the ribs (34) and the welding shoulders (38) of the ~~first proximal~~ retaining element (20P) are offset laterally with respect to the axis of the jacket (18).

Claims 9 and 10 (cancelled)

Claim 11 (currently amended): The device as claimed in claim 5, wherein the proximal end (14P) of the cable (14) is provided with a block (16) for securing the cable (14), and wherein ~~[[the]]~~ a shell (24) forms a housing for the securing block (16).

Claims 12 and 13 (cancelled)

Claim 14 (currently amended): The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the fusion interface is disposed within an enclosed space defined between the connecting element (22) and the ~~first proximal~~ retaining element (20P).

Appl. No. 10/523,584

In re Dupont et al.

Reply to Office Action of July 29, 2008

Claim 15 (cancelled)